

SENATE BILL 1011

By Ford

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
Chapter 3, relative to teenage pregnancy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following as an appropriately designated new section:

37-3-1__.

(a) On or before January 1, 2006, the commissioner of the department of
children's services, after consultation with the commissioner of education and the
commissioner of health, shall designate up to five (5) publicly or privately
supported programs within the state as model programs worthy of emulation with
respect to one (1) or more of the following activities:

- (1) Family life education;
- (2) Prevention of teenage pregnancy;
- (3) Counseling services for teenagers who are, or who may think
they are, pregnant;
- (4) Prenatal care for teenage mothers;
- (5) Parenting skills education for teenagers;
- (6) Job training and placement for teenage parents; or
- (7) Educational and support services for teenage parents.

(b) Prior to designating the model programs, nominations shall be
solicited from across the state. In selecting such model programs, due
consideration shall be given to the level of community acceptance and support
for such programs and to the techniques by which such acceptance and support

have been achieved. Due consideration shall also be given to the tangible impact such programs have achieved in combating the problems associated with teenage pregnancy.

(c) Subject to the availability of funding for such purposes as contained within the fiscal year 2005-06 budget of the department of children's services, state grants shall be awarded to the model programs selected pursuant to the provisions of this section. The dollar amount of each such grant so awarded shall be determined by the commissioner of the department of children's services after consultation with the commissioner of education and the commissioner of health. Payment of any such grant to any such model program shall be conditional upon the willingness of the chief administrative officer of the program to provide informational and consultative assistance to those agencies of state or local government which may desire to emulate, in whole or in part, such model program. Any such grant so received by a publicly supported agency shall be in addition to all other public funds which may be otherwise appropriated to such agency and it is not intended to supplant any other funding resource. Any funds not paid to a model program by June 30, 2006, shall revert to the general fund.

(d) The state officials designated in subsection (a) shall undertake appropriate activities to publicize their activities in implementing the provisions of this section and to publicize the activities and achievements of the model programs.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.